

soloist with the National Ballet of Holland; Broadway performer Betsy Ann Dickerson; singer/actress Lola Falana; Carol Johnson, a former principal dancer with the Eleo Pomare Dance Company and founder of an aboriginal dance company in Australia; and Arthur Hall, founder of the Afro American Dance Ensemble.

These dance greats in no way diminish the accomplishments of hundreds of her other students who did not choose careers in dance but because of the empowering and esteem building training at the Sydney School of Dance they are today proud and successful professionals in a variety of fields.

Mrs. King, the mother of three children, is a widow and now at the age of 95 sums her life's dedication to dance by saying simply she wanted to, "train and create Black ballerinas."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring her and her lifetime contribution to the arts and the African American community. Mrs. Sydney Gibson King is a treasure!

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 26, 2015*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,148,105,006,223.08. We've added \$7,521,227,957,310.00 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF REVEREND SHEDERICK ABNER'S 30 YEARS IN MINISTRY

#### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 26, 2015*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Reverend Shederick Abner. Rev. Abner has been a dedicated minister and on March 1st, a Pastoral Installation Service will be held for him.

Rev. Abner was born December 10th, 1962, and is a native of Montgomery, Alabama. He attended Montgomery Public Schools and completed his undergraduate degree in Biblical Studies and Pastoral Ministries and graduated Summa Cum Laude from Selma University in 2007 and 2009 with an Associate and Bachelor of Arts Degree respectively. He earned his Master's of Arts Degree in 2011.

Rev. Abner served in the U.S. Army from 1981–88 as an Army Bandsman. He was employed by the Alabama Department of Corrections from 1988–95 and Albany International Industry from 1995 until his medical retirement in 2001.

Rev. Abner was called into the ministry in 1994 and joined the North Montgomery Baptist

Church. In 1999, he joined the First Baptist Church Greater Washington Park where he has served the congregation faithfully. He also served as pastor of First Baptist Church Pike Road.

Rev. Abner is a member of several civic organizations, including: the Montgomery Metro Ministers' Conference, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Westside Restoration, Inc., Alabama State Missionary Baptist Convention, Inc. and the Ministers' Division of the National Baptist Congress.

He is married to Valarie Abner and has two daughters, Torquoria and Jasmine and one granddaughter, Kyleigh. On Sunday, March 1st, a Pastoral Installation Service will be held at Mary Magdalene Missionary Baptist Church in Shorter, Alabama.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Reverend Shederick Abner for his Service.

#### HONORING BRUNETTE CRAWFORD NELMS ON HER 105TH BIRTHDAY

#### HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 26, 2015*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, we often stand in awe of those who reach their 100th birthday. Well Brunette Crawford Nelms turns 105 this March! She is truly a glowing example of strength and a life well-lived. Her life motto has five points: live well, learn a lot, laugh often, love much, and let your life shine. She attributes her good fortune throughout her life to the goodness of God and his watchful care. "If you are not thinking about it," Brunette says, "time will slip by before you realize it."

Brunette's legacy is one framed by American tradition and innovation, love, education, faith, patriotic duty, pride and joy. Brunette remembers days of buggies and travel on horseback. She grew up on a cotton farm in Ashland, Mississippi. She remembers gramophones, Model-T Fords, washboards, the first planes and the first radios. At the end of WWI, Brunette watched celebrations of the armistice with her twin Blondie. Brunette began teaching school in her early 20s. She taught during the year and attended summer school until she finished her degree from the University of Alabama in 1937. A short time later, Brunette married W.C. Nelms. Once WWII began, the majority of Brunette's family, including Nelms, served in the Armed Forces. As noted on one of his medals, "Major W.C. Nelms' invaluable service and diligent devotion to duty reflect great credit to him and the Armed Forces of the United States." The war ended and Brunette and Nelms had two children. Brunette continued to teach elementary school for 14 more years and retired in 1974. She enjoyed 20 years of retirement with her dear husband and family in Clinton, Mississippi until his passing. In 2005, Brunette moved to the great state of Tennessee, where she now resides in Memphis with family.

As we celebrate Brunette's 105th birthday, we celebrate her faith, her health and the innumerable lives touched by her thoughtful teaching, optimism and friendship. I rise today to honor Brunette Nelms and ask my colleagues to join with me in thanking her for her 105 years of patriotic contribution and service.

#### DRINKING WATER PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

#### HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 24, 2015*

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 212, the Drinking Water Protection Act.

Last summer, as a result of toxic algae blooms in Lake Erie, hundreds of thousands of residents in Toledo were banned from using the city's drinking water, creating a state of emergency for local counties. This incident, which lasted for multiple days, is a reminder of the serious threat these toxic blooms pose to all of our Great Lakes and the communities that rely on them, and not just the immediately surrounding communities.

The Great Lakes account for over 20 percent of the fresh water drinking supply on the entire planet, and they generate billions of dollars each year through the fishing and shipping industries and recreational activities. We cannot ignore the threat posed by these toxic algae blooms and need to do more to protect our magnificent Lakes.

Assuring that we have adequate resources dedicated to monitoring and managing this threat across the entire Great Lakes Region must be a priority, which is why I introduced legislation last Congress to help advance voluntary assurance programs in Michigan and why I have and will continue to support legislative measures like H.R. 212, the Drinking Water Protection Act.

Michigan farmers have been leading the way when it comes to protecting our Lakes from damage caused by algae blooms, but they should not carry the burden alone. We must all work together to preserve and protect the health of our agricultural and maritime resources. It is my hope that this important legislation will be promptly approved by the Senate and sent to the President's desk.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF MR. ART COVIELLO ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

#### HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 26, 2015*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Art Coviello, a longtime friend and leader in the security industry, on his retirement as Executive Vice President of EMC Corporation and Executive Chairman of RSA, The Security Division of EMC. Art has pushed the envelope in the industry for more than 40 years, and his influence as a thought-leader, as well as his work solving complex challenges in the Age of Information, have truly helped transform the field of security, specifically with regard to cyber-security.

As the new millennium ushered in groundbreaking advancements, Art served as a conductor, helping to guide the industry through new developments in the most technologically dynamic time period the world has ever seen. Mr. Coviello's impact has been felt in both private and public sectors alike as he